

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph that begins on page 13, line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

The external pressure control and aeration unit 17 is shown in Figure 4. The duct 18 at the top of the Class II MSC 10 is connected to an inlet ~~port 176~~ port 46 to the aeration unit 17, and a fan 47 draws air/vapour mixture from the Class II MSC throughout the whole of the bio-decontamination cycle. The air is drawn through a catalytic bed 48 to render the air stream free of harmful hydrogen peroxide vapour. During the gassing phase of the cycle a small amount of air leaves the pressure control aeration unit via a restriction valve 49. This valve is used to control the extract air and hence the internal pressure in the Class II MSC at the same time as causing the hydrogen peroxide vapour to be pulled to the most remote part of the chamber, thus ensuring bio-decontamination in this area. Once bio-decontamination has been achieved the valve 50 is opened and the air flow considerably increased. This increased air flow removes the air/hydrogen peroxide mixture from the inside of the Class II MSC thus reducing the aeration time. During the gassing phase of the cycle the extract air extract flow will generally be less than 10m³ per hour and during aeration this will rise to about 200m³ per hour. In order to increase the air flow during the aeration phase it is necessary to allow air into the Class II MSC, this may be achieved by opening the front window of the cabinet by a small amount. In other cabinets a special opening is provided that may be used to allow the inward airflow that is sealed during gassing.